

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/005278

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
Int.Cl<sup>7</sup> G03G15/02, B41J2/385

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl<sup>7</sup> G03G13/02, H01J1/30-1/316, G03G15/02, B41J2/385-2/43

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

|                           |           |                            |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Jitsuyo Shinan Koho       | 1922-1996 | Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho | 1996-2004 |
| Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho | 1971-2004 | Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho | 1994-2004 |

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages   | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| A         | JP 2002-258585 A (Ricoh Co., Ltd.),<br>11 September, 2002 (11.09.02),<br>Page 3, left column, lines 17 to 20; page 3, left<br>column, line 45 to right column, line 2; page 4,<br>right column, line 46 to page 5, left column,<br>line 47; Fig. 1<br>(Family: none) | 1-13                  |
| A         | JP 2002-311683 A (Ricoh Co., Ltd.),<br>23 October, 2002 (23.10.02),<br>Page 2, left column, line 48 to right column,<br>line 2; page 3, left column, line 45 to right<br>column, line 26; page 4, right column, lines 29<br>to 45; Figs. 1, 6<br>(Family: none)      | 1-13                  |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search  
12 May, 2004 (12.05.04)

Date of mailing of the international search report  
25 May, 2004 (25.05.04)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/  
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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PCT/JP2004/005278

## C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages   | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| A         | JP 2002-174943 A (Ricoh Co., Ltd.),<br>21 June, 2002 (21.06.02),<br>Page 3, left column, lines 12 to 15; page 10,<br>left column, line 47 to right column, line 16;<br>page 11, left column, line 35 to right column,<br>line 16; Fig. 2<br>(Family: none) | 1-12                  |
| A         | JP 11-329213 A (Matsushita Electric Works, Ltd),<br>30 November, 1999 (30.11.99),<br>Page 2, right column, line 22 to 26; page 4,<br>right column, line 38 to page 6, left column,<br>line 16; Fig. 1<br>& EP 913849 A2 & US 6249080B1                     | 1-11                  |
| A         | JP 6-255168 A (Alps Electric Co., Ltd.),<br>13 September, 1994 (13.09.94),<br>Full text; all drawings<br>(Family: none)  | 13                    |